

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1. (currently amended) Device for ~~sterilising~~ sterilizing objects, the device being adapted to create from a gaseous flow subjected to an electric field a gaseous plasma of which a post-discharge flow which issues therefrom is brought into contact with a surface of the objects to be treated, the device comprising:

a sterilization chamber having therein a metal object holder on which the objects to be sterilized are disposed, wherein walls of said sterilisation chamber comprise a material that is adapted to heat up by recombination of nitrogen and have a capacity of recombination of nitrogen less than that of said metal object holder; and

means for producing said plasma from a gaseous flow exclusively constituted by nitrogen, said means for producing including an enclosure in which the gaseous plasma is produced, said enclosure comprising a generator of microwaves and being connected to said sterilization chamber by a conduit, the post-discharge flow that issues from the gaseous plasma being admitted via [[a]] said conduit into [[a]] said sterilization chamber ~~in which said objects are disposed; and,~~

~~means for heating said objects to a temperature of at least 60°C, said means for heating including a metal object holder disposed in said sterilization chamber, wherein said metal object holder heating and the walls heat under the effect of recombination of the nitrogen and heat the objects on said metal object holder to at least 60°C heating said objects held thereby.~~

2-4. (canceled)

5. (currently amended) Device according to claim 1, wherein ~~the sterilisation chamber is constituted by~~ said sterilization chamber is an autoclave.

6-7. (canceled)

8. (currently amended) Device according to Claim 1, wherein [[the]] said metal object [[-]] holder is made of brass.

9-20. (canceled)